## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO;

## EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL IOURNAL

Vol. XVII, No. 12, December, 1919

EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIAL NOTES

The Drug Addict Question.—Recognition of the evils and wide distribution of drug addiction has advanced to the point where we are witnessing various governmental efforts to control the use of habit-forming drugs. That these efforts have not met with adequate success is demonstrated by the problems now appearing of the care and criminality of drug addicts who are hampered under the law in procuring a sufficient supply of the drug to keep them comfortable, law-abiding and productive workers. Illicit drug dealers are profiteering to a huge extent among these unfortunates and thus creating a situation still further operating to cause criminality, suffering and social inefficiency. . . .

Minimum Wage for Office Workers.—The State Industrial Welfare Commission, under date of June 20, 1919, issued an order affecting the minimum wage lawful to be paid women and minors. This is set at \$13.50 per week, and includes workers in professional offices. The only exceptions to this rule apply to learners who, under certain conditions, may receive smaller wages. The total proportion of learners to all women employed shall not be greater than 33 1/3 per cent. . . .

Physicians should take due notice of this order and govern themselves accordingly.

## EXCERPTS FROM ORIGINAL AND OTHER ARTICLES

From an Article on "Notes on Encephalitis Lethargica in San Francisco," by Philip King Brown, San Francisco. -Encephalitis Lethargica has made its appearance on the Pacific Coast in numbers sufficient to emphasize the epidemic character of the disease, and in a guise that frequently detracts attention from the chief characteristics of the disease as thus far described. . . .

From an Article on "Intestinal Flagellates: A Plea for Their Pathogenicity," by John V. Barrow, S.B., M.D., Los Angeles.—A general survey of the literature on flagellated protozoa impresses one with their growing importance. Twenty years ago, they were reported in different human organs as a sort of curiosity, but scarcely to be thought of as pathogenic parasites. However, very recent years have brought a greater realization of their importance as producers of pathology. The amoeba and ciliated balantidium coli were first to gain recognition. Now they have a young army of medical men ready to respect their pathogenic power. What has happened in the rôle of the amoeba, and balantidium, is beginning to be realized in the case of the flagellated monads . . .

From an Article on "A Plea for the Earlier Recognition of Subacute Infantile Scurvy," by Langley Porter. M.D., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), San Francisco, and W. E. Carter, M.D., Los Angeles.-It is a popular lay notion which unfortunately has found its way into the medical mind

(Continued in Front Advertising Section, on Page 12)

† This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association activities some twenty-five years ago. It is honed that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members. Historical reminiscences, papers and other archives will be welcomed by the C.M.A. Committee on History, to whom such should be sent. Address same to the Committee's Secretary, Dr. George H. Kress, Room 2004, 450 Sutter, San Francisco, 8.

## BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By F. N. SCATENA, M. D., Sccretary-Treasurer

#### News

## Board Continues Doctor's Plea

Sacramento (AP.)-The State Board of Medical Examiners last night continued until March action on the application of Nathan S. Housman, former San Francisco physician, for restoration of his medical license.

Housman's license was revoked by the board after he was convicted of keeping improper narcotic records and of perjury in his testimony at the trial.

The board placed on probation for a year Dr. Edward M. Lundegaard, Oakland, who was charged with aiding unlicensed persons in operation of a treatment for alcoholism.-Vallejo Times Herald, October 19.

"Opportunity Open to Foreign Physicians: The San Francisco Committee for Service to Émigrés has been informed by the National Committee for Resettlement of Foreign Physicians that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is in need of physicans from all branches of medicine. The age limit is 55 years. United States licensure is not essential. Germans, Hungarians, Bulgarians and Austrians, who are not yet American citizens, are not eligible, although unusually well qualified Austrians may be considered. Nationals of non-Axis countries are eligible. Time spent in the employ of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) overseas will not be deducted from the required period of U. S. residency in computing eligibility for U. S. citizenship. Amercan citizens are, of course, eligible. The salary ranges from \$3 200 to \$7,000 a year, plus total maintenance on a per diem basis. (Anyone interested may receive further information by telephoning Miss Schoenholz at Fillmore 4513.)" Emanu-El Jewish Journal, Oct. 6, 1944.)

"Dr. Charles Bacon Boudwin, 64, 8656 East Fourteenth Street, Oakland, and his nurse, Mrs. Ella Berry, 41, today faced prison sentences of two to five years after an Oakland superior court jury yesterday found them guilty of performing an abortion on Mrs. Mildred Hatton of 6425 Essex Street a year ago. Boudwin's license to practice medicine has been withdrawn." (San Francisco Bulletin, October 14, 1944.)

"A Coroner's jury in Santa Monica yesterday found that Mrs. Frances Drapier, 33, of 1228 Lincoln Blvd., Santa Monica, died last Saturday as a result of an illegal operation, but the jury did not name any person responsible for the death. Following the inquest, Deputy District Attorney Kenneth Lynch said there was insufficient evidence to file a complaint against Mae Wilson, 53-year-old osteopath, who was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of murder in connection with Mrs. Drapier's death. She was released at that time on \$5,000 bail." (Los Angeles Times, Oct. 27, 1944.)

"Charged with two violations of the state health and safety code, Dr. Milton F. Novotny, Long Beach physician, yesterday was acquitted in Los Angeles superior

(Continued in Back Advertising Section, on Page 40)

<sup>†</sup>The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6. News items are submitted by the Secretary of the Board.

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## **BOOKS RECEIVED**

(Continued from Page 10)

had not been done before, and because he believed it would fill a very great need. He has aimed to accomplish a critical sifting of the important modern literature, a selection of all that is useful and needful in bedside therapeutics, and a rearrangement of this mass of knowledge for purposes of quick reference and individual completeness of treatment of each subject, to make it immediately available for practical needs.

The author expresses the hope that this new edition (the twelfth) is completely up-to-date, and that it will serve the practitioner in his daily work as usefully as did the preceding editions.

#### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Text Page 324)

that scurvy is rare in California. This belief is accentuated by the facts that the orange, a well known antiscorbutic, is a common fruit, and that most children of the State eat it frequently. An inquiry into the incidence of the disease shows this idea to be erroneous.

We have been able to collect from three San Francisco

hospitals, from the records of a few of our pediatric friends and from our own, a series of thirty-nine cases which have occurred since July, 1917. For the most part. these represent the extreme cases that find their way into the hospitals and into the hands of the children's specialist. . . .

The facts here presented warrant the conclusion that scurvy is not rare amongst children who live in the vicinity of San Francisco. Most of the cases come to the clinics undiagnosed, a state of affairs which suggests that the less evident subacute cases are being overlooked. It is the hope of the writers that this paper may emphasize the need of a close scrutiny of young children in a search for the "fruste" forms of scorbutus. . . .

## EXCERPTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE

December, 1919.

To the Editor:

I am a subscriber to your Journal since I obtained in Los Angeles license C-F 54 as physician and surgeon, and even before. . . .

Secondly, going as it were from the sublime to the ridiculous, the little stories related by Dr. W. Montgomery in his reminiscence of the Obstetrical Society of

(Continued on Page 14)

# Are there Vitamins in Beer?

For information on this timely subject, read "Vitamins in Tea and Beer" in the "Late News from the Health Front" section of the Summer Number, 1944 of YOUR HEALTH magazine



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### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 12)

San Francisco, might be supplemented by one, a conferer of mine, experienced in his second year of medical practice. He attended a primipara, which made very slow progress; the husband grew uneasy and insisted on a consultation with old Dr. Smith, a quack, who had had many convictions to his record for illegally practicing medicine. The young physician quite reluctantly consented to the consultation. Old Dr. Smith proposed at once quilling. "What do you mean?" said my young confere. "I will show you," came the answer. Here Dr. Smith filled a goose quill opened at both ends with smoking tobacco, blew it into the nostrils of the woman primipara; the latter was taken with a violent sneezing. At the third sneezing the baby was born, expelled by one

extreme contraction of all expulsive muscles. Sincerely,

(Signed) THEO. J. JACQUEMIN, 506 Clincon Ave., West Hoboken, N. J.

EXCERPTS FROM COUNTY SOCIETY PROCEEDINGS:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The Nurse Anesthetist Condemned.—At the regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, October 16, 1919, an instructive and intensely interesting paper was presented by Dr. Walter R. Crane, entitled "The Lay Anesthetist."

The paper dealt comprehensively with every phase of the situation involved in the use of "Anesthetic Technicians," laying emphasis on the danger and injustice to

(Continued on Page 20)

# St. Luke's Hospital

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
(Continued from Page 14)

THE POTTENGER SANATORIUM AND CLINIC

the public, and the growing opposition on the part of ethical members of the profession to the use of the non-medical, or nurse anesthetist, who, although without basic medical training and with only superficial technical knowledge of etherization, is nevertheless, in reality, intrusted with the patient's life.

He quoted extensively from authorities and observers all over this country and abroad regarding this subject, showing that the consensus of opinion is that lay anesthetists have no place in properly regulated hospitals, or in the private employ of surgeons; that the lives of patients are unduly jeopardized merely for the financial remuneration of the individual or concern employing them.

He cited various authorities in other states than California regarding the legal aspect, and the opinions were to the effect that the surgeon who employs, or the hospital which countenances such practices is liable in case of any accident which may occur either directly or indirectly as a result of anesthesia so administered.

The paper was extensively and favorably discussed by many present and at the close, the following motion was introduced and unanimously adopted by rising vote:

"Resolved, That the Los Angeles County Medical Association go on record as in favor of the limitation of the practice of anesthesia to regular licensed physicians and surgeons."...

The Los Angeles School Children's Clinic and Dispensary.—By courtesy of Dr. H. F. True, Director School Health Department.

The School Children's Clinic of Los Angeles is under the auspices of two institutions,—the Board of Education

(Continued in Back Advertising Section, Page 30)

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Front Advertising Section, Page 20) of Los Angeles and the Parent-Teachers' Federation of Los Angeles,—the former an official department of the city, and the latter, a semi-official organization; each school having its own local club and these clubs cooperating with and aiding the schools in many ways. The Board of Education maintains that Out-Patient clinic known as the O. T. Johnson Public School Dispensary, and the Parent-Teacher Federation is the patron organization of the dispensary.

The dispensary occupies a three-story, concrete building fully equipped, and with the following departments: General medical, general surgical, skin diseases, eye, ear, nose and throat, speech defects, corrective physical training and orthopedic, nervous conditions, osteopathic, and

dental. All the above are actively operating and are overcrowded. . . .

Narcotic Clinic Assured.-Los Angeles will establish a municipal dispensary and clinic for the decreasing dosage treatment of narcotic addicts. This was settled definitely at a meeting of the City Council after the councilmen listened to the amazing story of drug addiction, not alone in this city, but throughout the United States, as related by Collector of Internal Revenue John P. Carter, Health Commissioner L. M. Powers, Dr. John V. Barrow, Dr. Ross Moore, Dr. Dudley Fulton and others representing the County Medical Association. . . .

San Joaquin County.—The paper of the evening on "Fracture of the Skull" was presented by Dr. Howard Naffziger of San Francisco. Dr. Naffziger, who is in

(Continued on Page 40)

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## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 30)

charge of the brain and nerve surgery of the University of California, and who but recently served as Lieutenant-Colonel in the Division of brain surgery with the American expeditionary forces in France, was able to speak with authority, based upon wide experience in his specialty. He spoke particularly of the type of case showing profound unconsciousness, slow pulse rate and other evidences of increased cranial pressure which can be relieved by a subtemporal decompression. The technique of this operation was illustrated by pictures thrown on the screen thereby making it more vivid and clear to his audience. After a short discussion, Dr. Naffziger answered various questions which were presented to him. The meeting adjourned at 11 p.m. . . .

From an Article on "Treatment of the Diphtheria Carrier, with Special Reference to Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy. With Report of 12 Cases," by Frank E. Detling, M.D., Los Angeles.—What to do with the diphtheria carrier is a problem, perplexing to doctors, health and hospital authorities, and most trying, inconvenient and expensive to patients.

The diphtheria carrier plays havoc with hospitals, especially institutions that limit their patients to children, frequently closing part or all of same, infecting and disorganizing the hospital forces, prolonged occupying of beds in the contagious departments, which are usually too limited even for ordinary requirements. The frequency of its unheralded appearance, and the general dis-

(Continued on Page 44)



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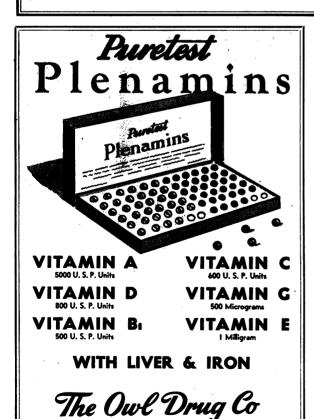
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#### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 40)

turbance it plays, make it customary to take throat cultures of all children as they enter children's wards, besides keeping them under observation for a limited time. In fact, I know of no other factor that plays such ruin with hospital efficiency. . . .

From an Article on "The Obstetrical Situation in France Today," by Titian Coffey, M.D., Los Angeles, Cal.—The obstetrical situation in France today is one that is causing grave concern to those most interested in the rehabilitation of this devastated country. Politicians,

(Continued on Page 46)



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Albert T. Voris, M.D.

# TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 44)

social workers, and medical profession, the church, all realize that something must be done on a grand scale to replace the depleted vigor of the nation, and to make up for the losses sustained in the past four years of this horrible war, to raise the fast-falling birth rate, to decrease the frightful infant mortality, to overcome tuberculosis and venereal disease, to put a stop to abortion, and to regulate prostitution. The problem is so vast, and involves so many complicated side issues, that one feels almost lost in attempting to grapple with it. Since the war of 1870 the birth rate of France has gradually decreased, so much so that, the average birth rate of civilized nations being 31.3 per cent, in 1913 the French birth rate was 18.8 per cent per 1,000 inhabitants, 40 per cent below the average, and this even before the nation entered the great war. . . .

#### BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

(Continued from Text Page 324)

court. Dr. Novotny was accused of possessing morphine in violation of the state code. His attorney, Russell H. Pray, contended that a physician and surgeon is permitted by law to buy drugs without a prescription. The acquitted man faces a similar charge in Long Beach superior court and was at liberty on bail at the time the Los Angeles case was filed. On the basis of yesterday's court ruling, Pray is expected to seek a dismissal of the local charge." (Long Beach Independent, Oct. 5, 1944.)

"Police Chief George Weight today said Max Otto Garten, 42, Salinas chiropractor, had been arrested on a charge of performing an illegal operation and was released on \$2,000 bail. The complaint was signed by a Salinas woman." (Press dispatch dated Salinas, Sept. 15, published in S. F. Examiner, Sept. 16, 1944.)

"Dr. Grover C. Talbot, 54, San Jose chiropractor with offices at his home, 569 Atlanta Avenue, was placed in the county jail late yesterday for the second time in seven (Continued on Page 47)